Mona Lisa Costume

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🔧 **TOOLS:**

- [Sewing machine (1)](#)

SUMMARY

My daughter wanted to be Mona Lisa for Halloween, so this is what we came up with. It basically consists of two parts, the dress and the frame/picture.

Step 1 — Mona Lisa Costume

- First you need to make the dress. Depending on your closet, you may be able to pull out something that could work. We used a McCalls sewing pattern (MP343, to be exact) and an appropriate dark brown fabric to create the dress.
- After picking your fabric, follow the directions for your sewing pattern to complete the dress.

Step 2
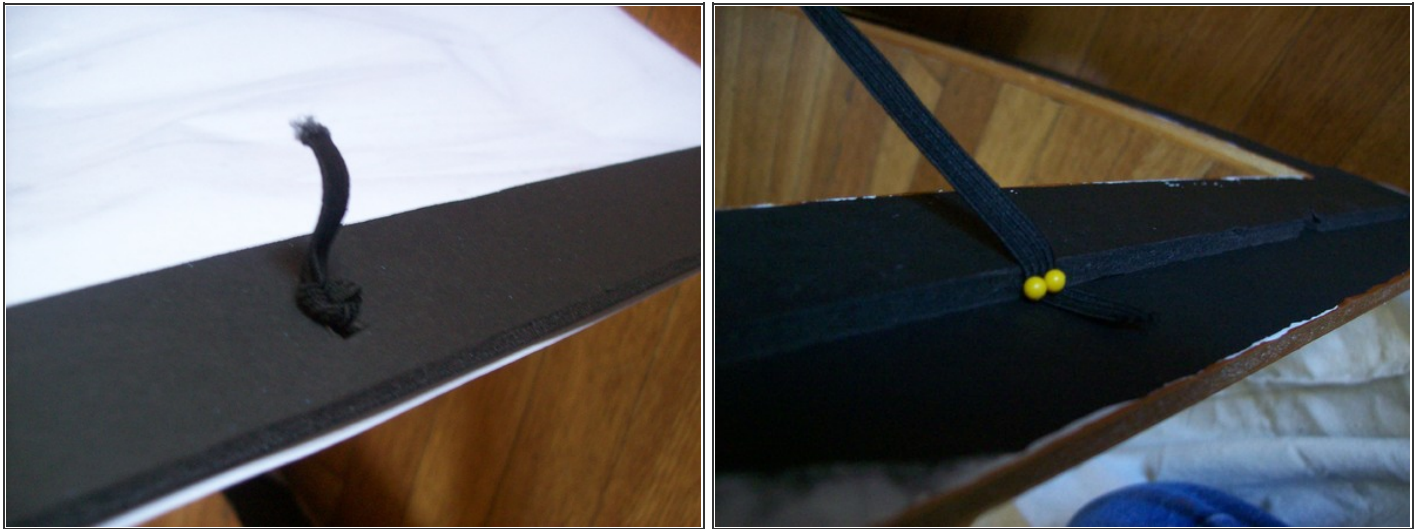

- Print out the file ML_Background.jpg on a large-format printer.
- Cover the back side of the printout with packing tape. This will make it a little more durable.
- Cut two 1"x24" pieces of foam core and hot-glue to the sides on the backside of the background.
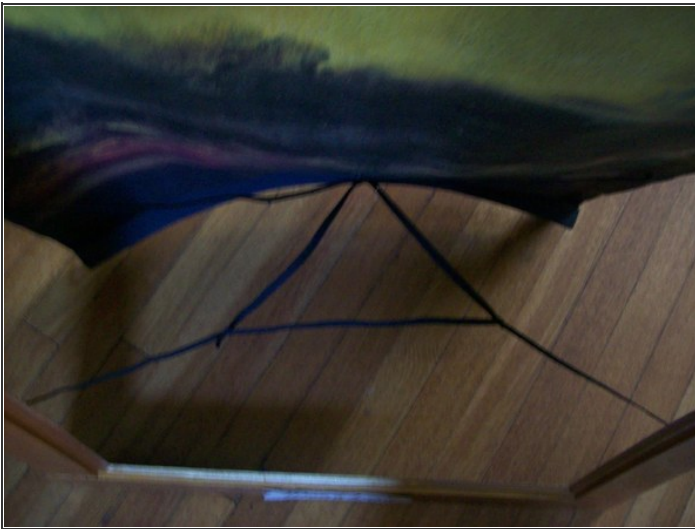
Step 3

- Using the foam core make a frame with an opening 16" wide and 22" tall. That created a good frame for my daughter; you may need to adjust it for you.
- Add decorations as desired and paint gold. I used a brush-on gold; spray paint would eat into the foam.
- Once the frame is painted, tape the top edge of the background to the top edge of the frame to create a hinge. See image.

Step 4

- Cut two 20" pieces of elastic.

- Cut a small hole into the foam core side pieces. Feed one end of the elastic through and tie a knot to hold it in place. Repeat for the other side.

- Attach the front end of the elastic to the opposite side of the gold frame (to the back of the gold frame - see image) I used straight pins through the elastic into the edge of the foam core.

Step 5

- Now that you have an "X" of elastic, we need to add one more piece to keep the frame sitting on your shoulders.
- Sew a six-inch piece of elastic to the other two. The goal is to form a triangle for the head to go through.
- For my daughter, I needed to attach the elastic "X" to the background image. To do this, reinforce the paper with some duct tape, and sew the elastic to it.

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